

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CASABL 00480 040812Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 /042 W
-----040817Z 122469 /22

R 031650Z MAY 77
FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4789
INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RABAT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CASABLANCA 0480

STATE PASS TO DEPT OF LABOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, MO
SUBJ: MOROCCAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (UMT) CELEBRATES
MAY DAY

1. UMT SECRETARY GENERAL, MAHJOUB BEN SEDDIK, IN A SHORT MAY DAY SPEECH COVERED THE USUAL THEMES FOR SUCH OCCASIONS-- "CAPITALIST RAPACITY", "A SOCIALIST TOMORROW", "DESTRUCTION OF LABORS' PURCHASING POWER", "HYSTERICAL ATTACKS ON UNION SOLIDARITY", "SUCCESSFUL STTIKE ACTIVITY"--AND AFFIRMED UMT SUPPORT FOR THE PLO AS "THE ONLY, AUTHENTIC REPRESENTATIVE" OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE. THE UMT LEADER ALSO VOICED HIS UNION'S SUPPORT FOR THE "ERITREAN REVOLUTION," THE LIBERATION STRUGGLES IN SOUTH AFRICA, RHODESIA, AND ALONG "THE SOMALIAN COAST." IN REFERENCE TO KAMAL JOUMBLATT, BEN SEDDIK AFFIRMED UMT'S SUPPORT FOR AN "ARAB LEBANON."

2. LAST YEAR'S MAJOR MAY DAY THEME WAS NOT EVEN GIVEN PASSING MENTION-THE RECUPERATION OF THE SPANISH SAHARA THROUGH THE GREEN MARCH, NOR WAS ANY MENTION
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CASABL 00480 040812Z

MADE OF MOROCCAN MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN SUPPORT OF BELEAGUERED ZAIRIAN PRESIDENT MOBUTU. ALSO, ABSENT FROM BEN SEDDIK'S SPEECH WAS ANY MENTION OF THE LONG OVERDUE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF THE UMT WHICH SHOULD HAVE BEEN HELD LAST YEAR IN MARCH. (UMT DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL MOHAMED ABDERRAZAK TOLD THE LABOR ATTACHE THAT IT WOULD PROBABLY TAKE PLACE TOWARD THE END OF THIS YEAR.)

3. AN OBSERVER OF THE LAST THREE UMT MAY DAY MARCHES THOUGHT THIS YEAR'S MARCH FIT INTO A TREND OF EVER SMALLER PARTICIPATION. THE REPORTING OFFICER ESTIMATES THAT THERE WERE FEWER THAN 10,000 IN THE PARADE, AN ORDERLY, LACKLUSTER AFFAIR THAT PASSED WITHOUT INCIDENT.

4. FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK WHICH HAS A BRANCH IN CASABLANCA WAS CASTIGATED OVER THE LOUDSPEAKERS DURING THE PARADE FOR IMPERIALIST ATTACKS ON UNION ACTIVITY. (COMMENT: CITIBANK EMPLOYEES HAVE BEEN ON STRIKE FOR SEVERAL WEEKS OVER THE DISMISSAL OF THE BANK'S UMT UNION REPRESENTATIVE.)

5. THE REPORTING OFFICER MET RUSSIAN COUNSUL GENERAL (SOROKINE) WHO SAID THAT A TWO-MAN DELEGATION HAD COME FROM MOSCOW FOR THE UMT CELEBRATION. BEN SEDDIK TOLD THE REPORTING OFFICER AFTER THE PARADE THAT IRVING BROWN, AFL-CIO REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE IN PARIS, WAS EXPECTED BUT THE REPORTING OFFICER DOUBTS THIS AS NO COMMUNICATION HAS BEEN RECEIVED FROM BROWN ABOUT COMING TO MOROCCO.

6. THE FACTORY MANAGER OF CASABLANCA'S GENERAL TIRE PLANT TOLD THE REPORTING OFFICER AT THE MARCH THAT MOHAMED TOURKZI, WHO BELONGED TO THE 51-MEMBER COUNCIL OF UNION WHICH ADVISES UMT'S RULING EXECUTIVE AND NATIONAL COMMITTEES, HAD RESIGNED FROM THE COUNCIL OF UNION IN DISGUST OVER THE "GAGGING" OF UMT MEMBERS BY THE TOP LEADERSHIP. TOURKZI IS REPORTED TO HAVE SAID THAT HE WILL DIVEST HIMSELF FROM UMT POLITICS NOW THAT HE HAS FOUND A GOOD JOB LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CASABL 00480 040812Z

AT THE NATIONAL ELECTRICITY OFFICE (ONE). (COMMENT: TOURKZI'S RESIGNATION IS UNFORTUNATE AS HE WAS THE UMT OFFICIAL WHO NEGOTIATED GENERAL TIRE'S PRESENT LABOR CONTRACT SCHEDULED FOR RENEGOTIATION AT THE END OF THE YEAR. TOURKZI HAD A REPUTATION FOR REASONABLE, FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH GENERAL TIRE MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS. HIS REPLACEMENT, MOHAMED YAGID, OF THE CHEMICAL PRODUCTS UNION OF CASABLANCA, MAY PROVE TO BE A TOUGHER BARGAINER.)

7. MOROCCAN LABOR MINISTER, MOHAMED KHATTABI, IN A SPEECH DELIVERED IN RABAT ON APRIL 30 IN CONNECTION WITH LABOR DAY STRESSED FAMILY PLANNING, MORAL REARMEMENT, DEVELOPMENT PRIORITIES AIMED AT JOB CREATION, AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING.

8. FRENCH AND ARABIC COPIES OF BEN SEDDIK'S SPEECH ARE BEING POUCHED TO RABAT AND THE DEPARTMENT. MONJO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNIONS, COMMEMORATIVE CELEBRATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 03-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CASABL00480
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770156-0104
Format: TEL
From: CASABLANCA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t197705101/aaaadjdx.tel
Line Count: 113
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 19cc5087-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 03-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2321626
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MOROCCAN TRADE UNION CONFEDERATION (UMT) CELEBRATES MAY DAY
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, MO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/19cc5087-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009